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MONDAY
JUNE 28, 1954

Audrey and her two friends went off early this morning on the first lap of their trip of discovery of darkest Europe. I [redacted] rented a Ford car which will cost them [redacted].00 a day plus 7 cents a kilometer. It was impossible to ascertain whether they had any money, and their sole preparation seems to have been the scribbling down on a piece of paper of an itinerary of quite staggering proportions which will lead them through Spain, France and Italy, omitting no city [redacted] they have ever heard mentioned.

Blair Clark called on me. David Schoenbrun has gone away for a couple of months to write his book and Clark is taking his place. I explained to him my reasons for believing [redacted] EDC had [redacted] wakened from its lengthy sleep.

De Staercke and I talked over the meeting to be held between Spaak and Mendès-France on Wednesday of this week. He assured me Spaak had not changed his views about having no truck with amendments to the present treaty text. We are all anxiously awaiting the communiqué to be issued by Churchill and Eisenhower in Washington.

Meanwhile, there is bad news about President Truman, who had a gall bladder operation a few days ago. He remains seriously ill.

Tonight we went to a dinner given by Lady Deterding at her house in Neuilly. There were about sixty guests for dinner, and a dance followed with a few hundred added starters. We left shortly after midnight, just as the more vigorous dancers were beginning to arrive. Meanwhile, I had been involved in a series of conversations with opponents and proponents of EDC. This is a subject to which, no matter where I am, I seem even against my will to become magnetized. As I was saying goodbye for the fifth time to my hostess, Pierre Brisson drew me aside to tell me he had just been read by telephone the Washington communiqué, and that on the subject of EDC it was excellent.

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The nights in Paris are still chilly. This has been the most unpleasant June, temperaturewise, I have ever spent here.

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